FBIS DAILY REPORT

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Vol VI No 065 *4 April 1983*

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STATEMENTS, DEMONSTRATION MARK FALKLANDS WAR

Army Declaration

PY022043 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1510 GMT 31 Mar 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 31 Mar (NA) -- The Argentine Army has reaffirmed that the decision to try to recover the Malvinas on 2 April of last year "was made after the 19 March incident in the South Georgia Islands when England, once again showed its contempt for international rules." The delcaration is part of a document released by the Army commanc last night entitled "First Anniversary of the Recovery of the Malvinas and South Atlantic Islands," which was signed by Col Juan Miguel Valento. The following is the text of the document:

"The first anniversary of the historic Malvinas happening will be celebrated on 2 April. On this date, ceremonies commemorating the event will be held in all military garrisons of the country and the main ceremony in the Stella Maris military chapel.

"It is not necessary to recall the many well known demands which our country has made to the United Kingdom of Great Britain since the time of the forceful occupation of the islands in 1833, in addition to all the historic, geographic and legal rights supporting Argentina's claim over the unredeemed islands. "After 17 years of unsuccessful negotiations, during which our just demands were not heard, the Argentine Republic decided to recover the islands, a recovery which was carried out on 2 April 1982, preserving the life and property of the islanders.

"It should be explained that this decision was made after the 19 March incidents in the South Georgia Islands when English once again showed its contempt for prevailing international rules, rules accepted by England. The response was soon felt, first through the vicious attack on the South Georgia Islands, and later on the Malvinas Islands.

"From that time until 14 June, the Argentine nation, with the solidarity of the brotherly people of the Americas, and its armed forces resisted the continued attacks unleashed by professional and mercenary units of the United Kingdom. Despite the undeniable heroic courage of our units, once again Great Britain recovered by force what it undoubtedly had lost in the international organizations, because most of the world recognizes the just right of our country to reincorporate the usurped territories to its sovereignty.

"Despite this situation, Argentina will permanently continue to fight in the appropriate international organizations for the recovery of the islands. The day is not too far away when Argentine rights will be recognized and the islands returned to their legitimate owner."

Navy Message

PY022141 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1200 GMT 2 Apr 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 2 Apr (NA) -- The commander in chief of the Navy, Adm Ruben Franco, said today that "The historic event which began on 2 April 1982 has not yet concluded," and that the Navy "has unfinished business." In a message delivered to the Navy, Admiral Franco said that "No matter how long it takes, the time will come when an Argentine hand will raise our flag forever at exactly the same place where our men became historic roots."

The text of Franco's message to the Navy reads:

"God is witness of what I say. I say it with profound feelings of compassion and pain. Compassion for my comrades, for the sons of the fatherland who died for her and who were my brothers. And for those who returned to our side, wounded in body and soul knowing that, in that piece of the republic, disgracefully taken by force, Argentine roots have become embedded, our sovereignty remains unburied and germinated by courage, innocence, death and the fervent desire to recover what is ours. Pain because of the lost battle, the capitulation which disgraces us, the powerlessness which is heartbreaking but which does not becloud either reason or right.

"The historic event started on 2 April 1982 has not yet concluded. It was a battle fought with courage, lost with honor. But it was not in vain, because the world awakened to our claim. It discovered a courageous Argentina tired of promises; it discovered a generous Latin America united in solidarity, a Latin America which, identifying itself with this cause, realizes that everything has changed 'after the Malvinas.' It has even changed for the undignified Great Britain, whose only argument is force and whose standard is arbitrariness.

"Fighting navymen: They all had fire in their souls, fire more powerful than the arms they were carrying; the firm pulse of men of valor who died for freedom but who did not kill for it; a clearness of thought which amazed the world.

"The navy decorates its heroes through strict justice and in recognition of honor, courage and self-denial in defending the sovereignty of the republic. This is a permanent symbol, full of respect, pride and consideration for our force; the will of its men to win, men who stood out in remarkable feats.

"Navy warriors: This historic deed, the first of its kind in the last 100 years, cast Argentina into mourning and moved the world. The Navy has unfinished business. Men of honor keep their word. No matter how long it takes, the time will come when an Argentine hand will raise our flag forever at exactly the same place where our men became historic roots.

"Navy personnel: Long live the fatherland!

"Subordination and valor to preserve it."

Political Statements

PY032244 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 2 Apr 83 p 1

[Text] (DYN-NA) -- Political groups, students' associations and unions, as well as agricultural, artistic, professional and veterans' groups have issued statements in which they agree with the restating of Argentina's sovereignty claim over the Malvinas, ratify the need to recover them and harshly criticize the military government's actions during last year's war with Britain. The statements also call for the democratization of the armed forces so they will carry out their specific mission.

The groups also insisted on demanding an investigation into the actions of the armed forces and the government during the war, they criticized the regime's attitude towards the veterans, and some groups called for the expropiation of British property in the country as well as halting payments on the foreign debt.

The Justicialist Party together with the CGT-RA [General Confederation of Labor of the Republic of Argentina] Labour Confederation and the Peronist 62 organizations stated that "this date reaffirms the conviction that nothing should be or should have been done outside the constitutional framework.

The grouping of Peronist "basic units" from Lanus said that "the government's decision to declare April 4 a national holiday...should be repudiated (because April 2) should be remembered instead as the 'day in which the Argentine people's faith and love for the fatherland was derided.'"

The Party for Social Democracy led by Admiral Emilio Massera pointed out that "the despicable attitude of the United States...restated the brotherhood and solidarity of the peoples of Latin America and that is the most positive factor resulting from the exploit."

Major General Eduardo Alfredo Esposito who commands the Second Army Corps, will decorate war veterans and the flags of Infantry Regiment 4 and Artillery Group 3 during the ceremony to be held next Monday at the 121st Communications Batallion in Rosario, to commemorate the first anniversary of the Argentine landing on the Malvinas.

War Veterans' Demonstration

PY032234 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 3 Apr 83 p 1

[Text] (NA) -- About 500 people paid homage to those killed and wounded during the Malvinas war last year at a rally that went ahead despite a government ban announced last Wednesday. The rally, which ended peacefully, was called by the Centre of Malvinas War Veterans to mark the first anniversary of Argentina's occupation of the islands. The demonstrators, mostly young people, repudiated British presence on the South Atlantic archipelago and the United States' support for Britain during the conflict, and chanted anti-government slogans.

The rally was held at the Argentine Air Force Square, at the foot of the English tower in front of Retiro station. Although the federal police had called on the demonstrators to only sing the national anthem and honour the dead, they chanted slogans criticizing the military leadership that conducted the war operations.

Three patrol cars, two riot trucks carrying armed policemen and about six Ford Falcon cars with policemen in plain clothes were stationed around the square. At the rally demonstrators burned British and U.S. flags and a dummy representing former Economy Minister Jose Martinez de Hoz and another one in a British uniform. The rally was attended by groups of Peronist, Radical and Intransigent youths, members of the Popular Leftist Front and Malvinas war veterans.

A spokesman for the organizers read out a message to the government, which among other things called for a thorough inquiry into the conduct of those who led last year's war and punishment for members of the armed forces found guilty of failing to carry out their duties properly. The rally, which started at 5:30 pm, ended peacefully after the demonstrators sang the national anthem and the crowd began to disperse.

CUBAN ENVOY ADDRESSES GROUP OF 77 MEETING

FL311410 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 31 Mar 83

[Text] At the full meeting of high-level officials of the Group of 77 in Buenos Aires, Cuba has called for a need to develop a system of trade without discrimination. Luis Sola Vila, Cuban ambassador to the international organizations in Geneva, called attention to the subject and denounced unbalanced trade, price drops in basic goods, protectionism and high interest rates which hurt development.

BRIEFS

TOURISM AGREEMENT WITH ISRAEL -- The executive branch has approved a tourism promotion agreement signed with the Israeli Government. [Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 2000 GMT 15 Mar 83 PY]

SILES ZUAZO RETURNS FROM VISIT TO FRANCE

PY020017 Paris AFP in Spanish 1619 GMT 1 Apr 83

[Text] La Paz, 1 Apr (AFP) -- The Bolivian Air Force plane which carried President Hernan Siles Zuazo on the last leg of his return trip from France landed in La Paz today at 1012 (1412 GMT). The president arrived 3 hours earlier than expected, and so neither Vice President Jaime Paz Zamora nor the cabinet ministers were at the airport to welcome him. Only his daugher and a unit of the Tarrapaca Regiment which was hurriedly lined up were there to welcome Siles Zuazo.

The president travelled in the company of Foreign Minister Mario Velarde Dorado, Planning Minister Arturo Nunez del Prado, Secretary Minister Horacio Torres, MNRI [National Revolutionary Movement of the Left] leader Felix Rospigliossi Nieto, and Congressmen Fernando Baptista and Alcides Alvarado.

After a 2-day visit in Paris, which the French press called highly positive, Siles Zuazo arrived in Rio de Janeiro (Brazil) very early this morning, where he was picked up by a plane of the Bolivian Air Force.

Government spokesmen announced that the president will grant a press conference in a couple of hours to report on the results of his trip to France.

Comments on French Cooperation

PY022155 Paris AFP in Spanish 0000 GMT 2 Apr 83

[Text] La Paz, 1 Apr (AFP) -- Upon returning from an official visit to France on 29 and 30 March, Bolivian President Hernan Siles Zuazo said here today that Bolivian democracy will have a multiplying effect in the southern cone.

In an exclusive interview granted to the state-run television station, the president stressed that he and his French host, President Francois Mitterrand, share common opinions on democracy, AFP had access to the interview, which will be broadcast within the next few hours.

The Bolivian president expressed his satisfaction with the results of his trip and pointed to the common views that France and Bolivia share about the defense of democracy, the need to solve peacefully the serious problems affecting Central America, the support that the two countries have extended to the Nicaraguan people and the urgent need to reactivate the North-South dialogue.

Siles said that as part of France's active support for the incipient Bolivian democracy, a common fund will be created with resources to be provided by the Mitterrand government, by the government of Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalzes -- whom Siles met in Madrid during a technical stopover in his flight to Paris -- and by another European country which Siles did not identify. He did not mention the amount of money that will be supplied to the common fund.

President Siles Zuazo also pointed to the cooperation that France will provide for the construction of a gas pipeline joining Bolivia's eastern and western regions. This project will make cheap energy available all over the country.

Siles Zuazo also pointed to France's generous decision to grant aid for the victims of the extraordinary floods in Santa Cruz (1,000 km east of La Paz) and to send 3,000 tons of flour to Bolivia.

The Bolivian president also reported that Christian Nucci, French minister delegate to the Ministry of External Relations for Cooperation, announced that his country has granted a 100 million franc credit line to Bolivia (some $13 million). The president explained that this credit will give Bolivia access to advantageous technical assistance aand cheap medicines.

Siles Zuazo also announced that a French technical mission will arrive in Bolivia in the next few days to discuss development projects in the areas of agriculture, industry, energy and, particularly, sugar cane production.

It was also reported that bilateral trade, which amounts to 2.4 billion francs, will now jump to 7.5 billion francs.

The Bolivian president once again ruled out any possible connection between his trip to France and the turning over of Nazi war criminal Klaus Barbie to that country in early February 1983.

Siles Zuazo reiterated that it was the Bolivian Government's sovereign decision to turn the Nazi over to France. He added that Bolivian territory should be free from war criminals.

The plane that brought Siles Zuazo bsck to Bolivia arrived in La Paz El Alto Airport 3 hours ahead of schedule and, therefore, neither the ministers nor Vice President Jaime Paz Zamora received the president at the airport. The president held a meeting with his ministers a few hours after his arrival. He then led the Good Friday religious procession.

ARMY OFFICERS INVOLVED IN CORRUPTION DISCHARGED

PY022105 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 2 Apr 83

[Text] The Bolivian Army has discharged five high-ranking officers on charges of being directly involved in corruption while performing government duties. The decision to discharge the officers was made by the army personnel court and it affects Maj Gen Armando Reyes Villa, former defense minister and former armed forces commander in chief under the Luis Garcia Meza regime in 1980.

The decision also affects Col Javier Alcoreza Melgarejo, former economy minister during the totalitarian regime of Luis Garcia Meza. Reyes Villa and Alcoreza Melgarejo were found guilty in the so-called Ribasa affir, in which an underwear manufacturing plant was to be illegally purchased. The deal was not closed because of the pressure of public opinion and because of the intervention of the comptroller general of the republic. Nevertheless, the case has not been completely clarified.

Col Ruben Dario Guzman Hurtado and Col Oscar Angulo Torne, military school graduates, were also discharged. They were found to be involved in the illegal clearing through customs of a large rayban glass shipment that was to be used in the La Paz olympic pool.

The army personnel court also discharged Lt Col Raul Gonzalez Ferry, former director of the National Antidrug Council. The Bolivian Government recently dissolved the anti-drug council because it found that this agency had protected terrorists like Pier Luigi Pagliai, who was wounded and turned over to Italy in October 1982. Pagliai died without supplying any information on his underground activities in Bolivia.

Army Commander in Chief Gen Simon Sejas Tordoya said that this is an unpleasant job that has to be done for the sake of military honor.

MINISTER DENIES REPORTS OF CABINET CRISIS

PA302014 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 30 Mar 83

[Excerpt] Bogota -- Government Minister Rodrigo Escobar Navia has denied that a political crisis is brewing in the government's top echelons. He said that this is not the time to resign but to govern.

The official referred to his various meetings with governors and other national officials who have political problems. He said that these were routine contacts to discuss the administration's performance and the need to see the greatest rapprochement possible with all political groups. He said that next week he will continue meeting with other regional government officials whether or not they have political problems.

Escobar confirmed a report that the Congress will be called into special sessions beginning the second week of April and repeated his report to the Conservative Party's national board that the chambers will begin sessions a day after the Supreme Court concludes its study of the decrees that were issued during the economic emergency; that is, the sessions will begin on 20 April.

MINISTER SAYS ACCORD WITH VENEZUELA CLOSE

PA031415 Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 30 Mar 83 pp 1, 8

[Excerpts] Foreign Minister Rodrigo Lloreda Caicedo has said that the day is not distant when, by continuing the efforts that the country has been making for years to reach a decorous, legal and serious understanding with Venezuela, "we may complete another great aspect of our maritime borders."

Lloreda Caicedo made this statement at a Foreign Ministry ceremony attended by President Betancur, former President Alfonso Lopez Michelsen and other distinguished figures. At the event, the government commemorated Dr Indalecio Lievano Aguirre on the first anniversary of his death.

Lloreda Caicedo stressed the importance of Lievano Aguirre's work as head of the Foreign Ministry by saying: "The advances made with neighboring countries in delimiting marine and submarine areas have enabled us to expand our frontiers and to consolidate our rights in the new field of the Law of the Sea."

"Efforts have been made," he added, "to continue this task, not only during the admistration that concluded a few months ago, but under the current administration. We are consolidating the treaty signed with Costa Rica on the Caribbean Sea, with an additional protocol covering the Pacific area. This will permit ratification of this legal instrument. We are also close to opening talks with Honduras, in search of agreements on the delimitation of marine and submarine areas."

ARMY KILLS FARC GUERRILLAS, SEIZES ARSENAL

PA302224 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 30 Mar 83

[Text] Bogota -- Three more guerrillas of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, FARC, have been killed in the fighting of the last few days between FARC guerrillas and army regulars in the Yari plains. Military sources in Bogota asserted that at (Cano Bajati), Miraflores municipality, a patrol from the 9th Brigade, headquartered in Neiva, successfully repelled an ambush laid by approximately 30 guerrillas, 3 of whom were killed. It was reported that the troops confiscated a large arsenal and discovered several FARC training camps during the operation. They also seized several vehicles.

TERRORISTS ATTACK ISRAELI EMBASSY, SUBSTATION

PA311920 Paris AFP in Spanish 1811 GMT 31 Mar 83

[Excerpts] Quito, 31 Mar (AFP) -- Several terrorist attacks were reported today in Quito: one against an electric substation, another against the Israeli Embassy and a third against the home of a journalist.

The electric substation in northern Quito, on the way to Tumbaco, a tourist valley, was almost destroyed by dynamite charges placed by terrorists. The intense rain that fell on the city last Friday night and early Saturday frustrated the plans of the unknown terrorists when most of the fuses got wet and this prevented the explosion.

The second attack was reported against the Madrid building that houses the Israeli Embassy, which was machinegunned early Monday morning. Unidentified terrorists machinegunned the building housing the Israeli Embassy located on 12 October Avenue in northern Quito, across from the Ecuadorean culture house. The windows were damaged but there were no casualties. Several bullets were found on different floors of the building and one was found in the secretariat of the Israeli Embassy. It was recalled that in December 1982, a powerful bomb caused the deaths of three persons and damage to the building where the Israeli Embassy in Quito is located.

RAINS, FLOODING CAUSE NATIONAL EMERGENCY

PA311256 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2340 GMT 30 Mar 83

[Excerpts] Quito, 30 Mar (LATIN-REUTERS) -- It has been officially reported that today the government declared 1/3 of continental Ecuador, where 70 percent of the country's population lives, in a state of emergency due to the rain and flood damage. When the phenomenon started, the government declared a state of alert in the five coastal provinces, but today the situation was extended to the three Andean provinces in southern Ecuador. Unofficial estimates put the damage at 5 billion sucres (some $119 million) in the Provinces of Esmeraldas, Manabi, El Oro, Guayas, Canar, Azuay and Loja, which have a total population of 5.8 million and an area of 96,387 square kilometers.

Ecuadorean President Oswaldo Hurtado has requested international aid to alleviate the effects of the disaster. His call was answered by all the Latin American countries, several European and Asian nations, plus several international organizations. They will send mainly food supplies to make up for the losses in the rice, corn, sugar, soy, cacao, coffee and banana harvests.

According to Public Works Ministry sources, 30 percent of the main highways were damaged in the disaster area, while secondary roads, which provide access to agricultural and livestock areas, have been completely washed out. Rail service between the coast and the sierra has also been interrupted because the swollen rivers have washed out the tracks. In Guayaquil, a port 416 km to the southwest, landslides have caused at least a dozen deaths. Meanwhile, people living in slum area houses built on stilts above the Guayas River have been warned that they will be evacuated if the waters continue to rise. The government has a shortage in foreign exchange and is negotiating for special IDB credits to help the people affected by the floods, to rebuild highways and railroads as well as to give loans to farmers who are in debt.

STROESSNER GIVES STATE OF NATION ADDRESS

PY011600 Asuncion Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1212 GMT 1 Apr 83

[President Stroessner's state of the nation address from the Legislative Palace in Asuncion -- live]

[Excerpts] Honorable members of the National Congress, I am here before the honorable congressmen to open this session of Congress and to give an account of the activities carried out by the government from 1 April 1982 to today. I am thus complying with the provisions of Article 138 and of Section 10 of Article 180 of the National Constitution.

This act, which is provided for in the Constitution, is taking place on a day that has a profound spiritual and religious significance. On this Good Friday, a day for spiritual introspection, meditation and heartfelt commemoration of Christ's sacrifice for the redemption of mankind, we hereby reconfirm that faith in God and patriotism are the two most authentic, clearcut and immovable principles of the Parguayan people. [applause]

I am very pleased to express in this high forum in which popular sovereignty is embodied that the nation continues to pursue prosperity based on our free institutions and guided by the strong belief and clearcut principles of Paraguayan nationalism.

We have the benefit of enjoying freedom daily. Everyone can work, improve and exercise all their legal rights under the law. This is a time marked by authentic human fulfillment because both men and women can attain their just objectives and exercise their political rights without restrictions, and upright people are safeguarded by our strong legal institutions.

We practice freedom, a moral principle that glows in us, in order to serve better the supreme interests of the nation. Freedom stems naturally from human dignity and we feel that we are preserving the spiritual patriotism of the Paraguayan people by practicing and protecting it. We will never allow obscure terrorist practices to deprive us of our freedom because freedom is an honorable achievement of the Praguayan people. This freedom, which did not exist before because of the anarchy prevailing in the country, is now prospering within an atmosphere of peace as a sublime offering of our spirit and will.

The power we exercise stems from the will of the majority of the people. We rule through the decision of the people and we faithfully observe democratic principles. We have never departed from the doctrine based on government of the people, by the people and for the people. Elections are held on a timely basis and the people are entitled to freely exercise their sovereign right to vote. The right of the people to participate in electing the authorities and drawing up the national policy through democratic methods -- a right established in the Constitution -- is totally guaranteed. We categorically assert that the country has a republican, democratic and representative government and that a multiparty system is fully in force. There is an undeniable freedom of press in the country. Those who openly abuse it by no means benefit this freedom. Nobody should resort to press freedom in search of impunity for crimes committed through the press.

Our state of law is strongly based on the principle of division, balance between and independence of the branches of the government.

In our country the enforcement of the law is solidly founded on the principle of division, equilibrium and independence of the three branches of the government, under the firm protection of their constitutional rights that we have granted to all.

This honorable and sovereign forum of the people, where both the majority and the minority fulfill their mission of overseeing the state, is clear proof of the existence of the democracy that we refer to and that we practice.

We are aware of the significance of freedom, but we also know that the abuses of those who believe that the role of the opposition is to systematically discredit everything the government does distort the nature of freedom. Nothing, no one, will turn our freedom into chaos or our democracy into anarchy. [applause]

We guarantee freedom, equality, justice, order, internal peace, national defense, economic progress and social and cultural development, in keeping with the wise principles outlined in the preamble of our Constitution. Therefore, we categorically assert that we have neither curtailed either freedom or democracy nor violated either human rights or the spirit or the letter of the Constitution.

The peaceful revolution that I promised to implement in 1954 is underway, and its results can be seen in every aspect of national life and in the increasing well-being of the people. In keeping with that commitment, our revolution moves forward without disruption, at a determined and firm pace, promoting social development without disregarding individual rights. Our revolution follows the path of law and harmony, far from demagogy and violence. Our revolution has been implemented in compliance with the constitutional order.

Our constant concern has been that of work. We use the power that the will of the people has granted us to work tirelessly for our nation's greatness.

We are not fond of mere rhetoric, and we do not breed sterile hate either. We are constantly seeking to raise the standard of living of the people, who have no fears because peace prevails all over our territory and because the determined impulse that we gave to the cause of social justice has promoted development.

In the past, a past that is decidedly over, our country was stagnant under the indifference of those who were in power. In these historic times marked by dedication to the great national ideals, each new days witnesses spiritual, moral and material achievement that we, led by the patriotic example given by our forebears, offer to the republic.

Let no one mistake stability for stagnation. Our country is building a prosperous future on the basis of our sound policy which is reflected by the normal performance of the institutions of representative democracy.

Institutional normalcy, reflected by the harmonious relations between the people and the government, has provided the necessary environment for our socioeconomic and cultural development. Without this undeniable atmosphere of peace and freedom in which the people realize that they are playing a sovereign role in the building of their own future, we would not have been able to continuing improving our country's general situation so successfully.

Democracy, the essential foundation of our lifestyle, has allowed the creative power of freedom to expand amidst a broad consensus which is the origin and shielf of our constitutional government.

Democracy, an essential way of life we will not relinquish, is promoting creative freedom through consensus. This consensus gave rise to and is the pillar of our government.

The general elections held on 6 February 1983 took place in a totally normal atmosphere. This act was an eloquent expression of the democratic nature of our free institutions. There were no abnormal incidents that might have stained this impeccable civic act, which proceeded with all the guarantees provided for in the Constitution and in the electoral law. The political parties that were legally constituted, registered with and recognized by the Central Electoral Board carried out extensive election campaigns prior to the elections enjoying political freedom under the law.

Our foreign policy is based on compliance with the principles and instruments governing international coexistence and on faithful observance of our commitments in keeping with the legitimate interests of the Praguayan nation.

We have strengthened our ties with those friendly countries that -- like we do -- strive for peace, well-being and progress.

The national government has assigned priority attention to the project known as the soybean railway system which is designed to link the Paraguayan and Brazilian railway systems to give us another outlet to the Atlantic Ocean.

We trust that this truly important project for our country will soon materialize. To this end we will make every necessary effort from the technical and financial standpoint.

Renewed efforts which have begun in recent months to expedite the Yacyreta Dam project, which we share with the Republic of Argentina, are continuing at an encouraging pace.

On 10 December 1982, our country signed the Law of the Sea Convention, a valuable diplomatic instrument to which we assign special significance since, apart from legislating on problems concerning fishing in the sea, it also legislates on issues like the right to have access to the sea by landlocked countries and the right to free passage. This convention will thus respond to the just, legitimate aspirations our country has time and again stated in international forums on its landlocked situation, and in its talks with other countries.

Our national government continues to stringently observe the unwavering Paraguayan position of defending the principles of international law to guarantee peaceful coexistence among nations and the peaceful solution of controversies. This position guided our behaviour during the conflict between Argentina and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland last year.

Honorable members of the National Congress: we have adopted a prudent economic, financial and fiscal policy to cope with the world economic crisis that has affected both industrialized and developing countries.

The capitalization of the country, measured by the gross investment/GNP [Gross National Product] ratio, has grown significantly from 23 percent in 1978 to 31 percent in 1981 . This index declined slightly in 1982.

The foreign sector has also grown steadily despite foreign market problems. Total exports reached $330 million. This figure is 12 percent higher than that of 1981. Imports reached $591 million, a figure 14.9 percent larger than in 1981. Oil, fuel and lubricants accounted for 26 percent of total imports.

The balance of payments registered a $71.5 million deficit, but this deficit was easily covered by the large net reserves our country has. Reserves stood at $635.92 million on 31 December 1982.

The government has adopted several economic, financial, fiscal, exchange rate and credit measures to cope with the temporary deficits in the balance of trade and in the balance of payments. The purpose of these measures is to strengthen our exports, to gradually replace imports and to promote a more efficient development of our real and potential resources.

We have promoted the export of products which have undergone as much processing as possible, so that their added value may also be as high as possible. We have added new items to our exports, getting the most out of the comparative advantages our nation has.

As for imports, preferential tariffs and exchange rate and credit facilities have been granted for importing capital assets, inputs and consumer goods that our country does not produce.

Our credit policy has favored those productive activities which are most advantageous for our economic system. For this purpose, a complementary financial measure has been adopted, namely, the selected rediscount of loans granted by local banks.

The exchange rate policy has sought to maintain the stability of our currency at a reasonalb elevel in agreement with fiscal and foreign trade policies for the purpose of maintaining, as much as possible, the foreign sector's equilibrium. Therefore, measures were enacted to restrict imports and encourage the private banks to sell hard currency to the Central Bank. Negotiable fluctuating exchange rates were adopted in order to promote exports.

The results of the implementation of the government's budget clearly reflect the country's ability to repay its debts.

The following is a breakdown of our country's overall public debt: external public debt on 31 December 1981: 42,826,800,000 guaranies. This figure rose 16.9 percent in 1982. External public debt amortization: 2,612,700,000 guaranies. Ninety-two percent of this amount has been covered with current account savings. External public debt on 31 December 1982: 50,072,200,000 guaranies. Internal public debt on 31 December 1981: 1,657,600,000 guaranies. This amount rose 2.4 percent in 1982. Internal public debt amortization: 528,500,000 guaranies. This amount includes interest worth 84,300,000 guaranies. Internal public debt balance on 31 December 1982: 1,698,000,000 guaranies.

Being aware of the importance of domestic savings, the national government adopted a prudent foreign indebtedness policy that led to the growth rate of recent years, and that permitted the imposition of reasonable restrictions on domestic consumption and the promotion of desired accumulation of national capital.

We are pleased to tell you that our country has adhered to its policy of meeting all its obligations and that, therefore, the nation's prestige at international credit agencies remains high. We should also remark that internal obligations, concerning both operating costs and capital charges are strictly being met without making use of measures that might jeopardize the monetary and financial order.

We will not let subversion and extremism develop in our educational institutions. We will continue to preserve the moral and spiritual health and the nationalist faith of our youth, whom communism will not be able to attract to subject them to its nefarious, shameful designs.

Clearly interpreting our people's Christian beliefs, the national government has taken pride in cooperating with the Catholic Church in important projects designed to promote social, moral and spiritual well-being, Freedom of worship, which is guaranteed by Article 70 of the Constitution, is respected.

Honorable Congressmen, the glorious armed forces have been safeguarding the national sovereignty and territorial integrity with genuine patriotism.

The nation feels that its freedom and independence are safe because the armed forces comply and will continue to comply with their sacred commitment to the fatherland, faithful to the mandate beaqueathed to us at Cerro Cora [place where national hero Francisco Solano Lopez died on 1 March 1870], and faithful to the example of those who defended our heritage in the epic Chaco War [applause]

The strength of our government is based on the law, on the moral rights granted by the will of the people and on our own patriotism, which has led us and which will always lead us to strongly reject the provocations from the agents of terrorism and subversion.

My recommendation is to increase production, to work with unyielding will and to have faith in everything that is done and built for the prestige of our nation, because our country is respected and admired worldwide for the peace it enjoys and for its amazing recovery which is in sharp contrast with the bitter situation of so many peoples who are distressed by political and socioeconomic instability.

With the help of God and with the efforts made by the entire nation, we shall strengthen our country's prosperity, since this should be the task of all good Paraguayans, who have been blessed with the strong spiritual heritage of the Guarani race. [applause]

In the daily struggle for our progress, the fervent response of a united nation has shown that this is not the time for either indifference, apathy or hesitation, Pat Patriotism is the driving force of this true Paraguayan revival, a revival that has rated among the most important achievements in our history.

We are in power in order to fulfill a broad social program. We will tolerate neither submissive attitudes nor weaknesses that may offend the dignity of the Paraguayan flag. [applause]

The citizenry trusts that Congress will continue to be the sounding board of social issues, that it will always hold its debates on a high plane of noble patriotic ins[illegible]ration and that it will pass laws that will be useful for the security and development of the nation.

Honorable members of the National Congress; on opening this year's congress session, I wish you success in your task, along the path leading to the greatness of the Republic of Paraguay.

DEMONSTRATION STAGED IN SUPPORT OF NICARAGUA

PA031340 Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish 30 Mar 83 p 3

[By Angel Aguilar Perez]

[Excerpts] The members of the Workers Socialist Party [PST] will be "in the front line of combat" if the United Stated decides to invade the sister republic of Nicaragua, PST legislator Cesar Humberto Gonzalez Magallon warned yesterday.

During a demonstration staged yesterday in front of the U.S. Embassy in Mexico by members of the PST, the Socialist Youth and the National Federation of Insurgent Women [Federacion Nacional de Mujeres Insurgentes] it was stressed that President Ronald Reagan's fascist policy runs contrary to the peoples' right to self-determination.

Some 500 people demanded that "fool Reagan" stop his interventionist policy and reminded him of the serious problems that U.S. imperialism has had in Vietnam, the Bay of Pigs and Central America.

After the demonstration, the participants burned Uncle Sam in effigy. Following this, 100 candles were symbolically planted in the pavement in support of the Nicaraguan people's struggle.

From the moment the demonstration began, four Marines posted outside the U.S. Embassy maintained a provocative attitude toward the demonstrators.

DE LA MADRID TRIP TO WASHINGTON IN APRIL DENIED

PA020401 Mexico City UNOMASUNO in Spanish 1 Apr 83 p 5

[Text] The Foreign Relations Secretariat yesterday denied an AP dispatch claiming that Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid is going to visit Washington, D.C., on 10 April to meet with his colleague Ronald Reagan.

A Washington-datelined AP dispatch made the announcement of the visit, attributing the report to diplomatic sources.

PEMEX ANNOUNCES OIL EXPORT PRICES FOR APRIL

FL300247 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0240 GMT 30 Mar 83

[Text] Mexico City, 29 Mar (NOTIMEX) -- Mexican Petroleum today announced it had informed its clients that the export prices of its Istmus and Maya crude oil during the month of April will be $29 and $23, per barrel respectively.

Pemex pointed out that in maintaining the export prices at the same level of February and March, it was contributing to the stabilization of the market and that the prices are in line with those of other producers.

COSTA RICA

PEACE, SOLIDARITY CONGRESS MEETS 18-20 MARCH

PA312112 San Jose LIBERTAD in Spanish 25-31 Mar 83 p 8

[Excerpts] The fourth congress of the Costa Rican Peace and Solidarity Council was held on 18, 19 and 20 March. Attending the event were 50 organizations representing various sectors, including unions, solidarity committees, cultural groups, university and secondary school student federations, the international league of women for peace and freedom, political parties and youth movements, the New Generation Movement, the Central American Human Rights Commission, the basic theological program and other organizations interested in contributing to the noble goals of the struggle for peace and solidarity.

Participants also included foreign delegates and representatives of the WPC, El Salvador's FDR, the Nicaraguan Peace Committee, Panama's Peace and Sovereignty Council and the Guatemalan Patriotic Unity Committee.

The congress reviewed basic aspects for strengthening the peace movement, foremost among these a detailed review of the consequences of the crisis currently affecting Costa Rica's popular sectors, as well as the dangerous measures that are being promoted in our country to curb the development of the people's movement. This is the case with the creation of OPEN [Organization for National Emergencies], the continuous specialization of the repressive bodies and the increase in the number of members of the public force.

Special attention was given to a review of the Costa Rican people's solidarity with those who are struggling to create more just societies. The conclusion was that it is necessary to redouble efforts to organize a broad movement of solidarity from the rank and file, involving various ideological, political and religious sectors in order to reaffirm the Costa Rican people's position against U.S. intervention and for the defense of sovereignty. The movement must also develop initiatives of solidarity with the Costa Rican workers' struggle.

The participants at this event elected the council's new board of directors, which is representative of various sectors. Political cartoonist Hugo Diaz was reelected chairman. The following people were elected deputy chairmen; Elizabeth Odio, Dr Arnoldo Mora, Alvaro Morales, Dr Kemly Jimenez, Jose Francisco Aguilar Bulgarelli, Prof Adonay Arrieta, and Norma Pereira.

The general coordinator is Dr Ronny Guevara. The secretariats went to the following people:

Human Rights Secretariat: Felicia Torres
Peace Secretariat: Lilliana Zeledon
Solidarity Secretariat: Maritza Gonzalez
Ecumenical Secretariat: Rev Simon Alvarado
Youth and Student Secretariats: Ignacio Navarrete
Finance Secretariat: Thais Rodriguez
Press and Propaganda Secretariat: Ignacio Dobles
Members: Professor Erna Castro and Sonia Gutierrez

GUARD CONFISCATES ARMS CACHE FROM COMMUNISTS

PA032145 San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 28 Mar 83 p 13A

[Text] Deputy Government Minister Enrique Chacon has officially reported that an arsenal consisting of M-14 and M-1 rifles, 8,600 rounds of ammunition and grenade launchers held by the brother of a Communist deputy has been confiscated.

Several arms caches have already been seized from the communists, who consider themselves "angels of peace." One was found in the home of Manuel Mora, the communists' top leader.

The communists should refer in their "peace" congresses to these arsenals, which constitute a very "special" way of promoting "peace" in our country. This latest arsenal was discovered in the Pocora area, where the comrades are promoting strikes.

According to reports, these weapons only represent a small part of the arsenal which the rural guard has been unable to confiscate despite its meritorious and patriotic work.

While Nicaragua is preparing an aggression against our country, its local accomplices are trying to destabilize the government as part of an overall plan against Costa Rica that was launched by international communism several months ago.

EL SALVADOR

MAGANA REPORTEDLY TO HEAD FINANCE MINISTRY

PA040426 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 0000 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] President Alvaro Magana is going to assume the duties of the Finance Ministry. Government House sources told this newscast today that the president himself is going to take over the finance minister's post, which has been vacant since last month when Dr Jorge Eduardo Tenorio resigned.

The sources also said that there has been a lot of speculation regarding the resignation of a government under secretary in the same ministry. This station will soon be able to offer more details about this resignation by a second-rank official in the Magana administration.

Beginning Tuesday, then, President Magana will be heading the Finance Ministry due to Jorge Eduardo Tenorio's resignation.

GARCIA DENIES RUMORED RETURN OF EXILED COLONEL

PA310407 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 30 Mar 83

[Text] Defense Minister Gen Jose Guillermo Garcia yesterday in a statement to the news media denied that Col Adolfo Arnoldo Majano is in the country.

ACAN-EFE News Agency quoted a local newspaper report datelined Caracas, saying that Venezuelan President Luis Herrera Campins had stated that Colonel Majano was in El Salvador. Nevertheless, Minister Garcia denied this information, and said "it is part of a wave of rumors that have been spread lately with the intention of creating problems in the armed forces."

Likewise, he said it is also false that Majano -- exiled in Mexico -- had come to El Salvador to "dialogue" with army members because "that is highly unlikely."

Majano was expelled from the government junta on December 1980 after army officials voted to appoint Col Jaime Abdul Gutierrez as commander of the armed forces.

Majano was arrested on 18 February 1981 in Guatemala, and on 20 March of that same year he left the country for good.

POLICE DROP CHARGES AGAINST U.S. REPORTERS

PA040200 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 0000 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] Charges have been dropped against two U.S. reporters. Diplomatic sources accredited to this capital said today, Sunday, that, following an investigation, the Treasury Police have dropped the charges against reporters Thomas James Western of a San Diego radio network and Joanne Ambrose Newton who works for the BBC of London and NBC in the United States.

A third reporter, Paulo Texeira, is still in the Brazilian Embassy and is about to return to his country following embassy action on his behalf. According to the diplomatic sources at the Treasury Police, no charges are pending against newsman Texeira either although he has refused to go to the Treasury Police for questioning.

Diplomatic sources also told this newscast that newsman Thomas J. Western will leave El Salvador in the next few hours. This, of course, has been the official confirmation of this news report. [sentence as heard]

FMLN COMMANDER SAYS ARMY LOSES INITIATIVE

PA022015 San Jose LIBERTAD in Spanish 25-31 Mar 83 p 11

[By ANN correspondent Luis Aburto; capitals indicate italics as published]

[Text] Since October 1982, the Salvadoran Army has lost the military initiative and is at present on the defensive. However, it has been introducing several changes in order to recover its capacity for a counteroffensive. This action appears long and complex before the steady advance of the revolutionary forces.

Commander Misael Gallardo, in charge of the Guazapa front, summarizing the country's military situation, has pointed out that "after the rebel offensives of October and January, and as an almost direct result of the crisis in the high command solved by the virtual removal of Defense Minister Gen Jose Guillermo Garcia and the assumption of military control by Col Rafael Flores Lima -- an advocate of U.S. advisorship -- several changes have occurred in the government army."

"Concerning the defensive, which is dominant in the army's current tactical reorganization, it has tried to guarantee the safety of the main cities and highways (the Pan-American, coastal and northern trunk highways and the Usulutan-Berlin and San Vicente-Tecoluca roads), as well as the country's main industrial and agricultural centers. However, this has required considerable military mobilization," he stressed.

Gallardo said that "because of this, the army has decided to withdraw the infantry from the small cities, which are protected by units of 'civil defense,' National Guard, National Police and Treasury Police."

He said that "in more strategic cities, a fixed force has been detached in trenches and a mobile force has been assigned to flank the guerrilla contingents. This force is capable of urban fighting and counterattacks, as in Suchitoto in February."

Furthermore, he pointed out, "in San Salvador, a defensive-offensive belt has been built around the city in order to protect the air force, the security forces, the armored forces, the artillery brigade, part of the ELITE FORCES, the high command and the armed forces staff, which are concentrated there. A similar belt is planned between Perquin and San Francisco Gotera, which are constantly harassed by the guerrillas."

But the current reorganization is also an attempt to guarantee a successful counter-offensive, aimed primarily at the recovery of cities and stretches of road lost to the FMLN offensives.

The army's greatest weaknesses during the most recent stage of the war have been; mobilization in large contingents by land, where they were easily ambushed; utilization of the same attack technique, THE ANVIL AND HAMMER, in trying to encircle the insurgents -- which they have never achieved; inability to hit simultaneously from various fronts, which the FMLN took advantage by attacking strategic points when troops concentrated in one spot; and the inability to maintain their positions in areas under FMLN control, without civilian support, and without sufficient military strength to occupy them.

Following the October 1982 and January 1983 offensives, the revolutionary forces managed to control an area of approximately 1,200 sq km in the northwestern sector (total area: 21,000 km); more than 40 main towns in the area and strategic parts of the highways.

The army's readjustment has two main goals, Commander Gallardo explains: "The installation of bases against guerrillas on the outskirts of the city and in zones where the FMLN has political and military control, with the double objective of FIGHTING FOR TERRITORY by weakening the rebel forces and attempting to break their bases of popular support; in the second place, launching the so-called COMBING AND CLEANUP operations with the elite forces (Atlacatl, Atonal and Ramon Belloso battalions), at an appropriate moment."

"All this is accompanied by the massive use of artillery, armored vehicles and the air force, as support forces. The increasing use of the Air Force -- as the army itself admits -- has, above all, a psychological effect that favors the forces under siege, but it is not a determinant factor militarily. Instead, it becomes a massacre of civilians."

"This is supported by the mobilization of troops via the rivers or the ocean -- they have prepared adquate transportation for this -- preferably during the night, and in smaller and more mobile units."

This strategy, directly inspired by U.S. advice, presents various problems. They stem from the armed forces' significant moral and physical weariness; throughout 1982 they have launched a total of 16 large-scale operations with an average 4,500 men each -- even though in October the number rose to 7,000 men with an average duration of from 2 weeks to 2 months -- without achieving in great part their objectives.

In this case the rebel stronghold in Guazapa, 23 km from the capital, acquires an almost mystical character. The armed forces have not been able to dislodge the guerrillas, after 10 operations.

Likewise, during 1982 the army lost to the revolutionary forces 1,374 long weapons, 104 short weapons, 77 support weapons, 11 helicopters, 21 airplanes, 18 trucks and 2 armored vehicles. In addition, it suffered a total of 3,543 casualties. During January 1983, the army lost 589 rifles, 60 short weapons, 16 support weapons; it suffered 386 dead and wounded.

The army has lost 15 percent of its total forces. To counter this loss, the government high command is carrying out massive drafts of officers and cadets who have not finished their studies in the military school; the command is reinforcing the draft programs in the cities. The command is even calling in college and university students of both the lower and middle classes, ranging in age from 14 and 17; this is mainly taking place in western El Salvador, where obligatory military service has been imposed.

The mid-level officials, most of whom have scant military training, resist accepting the ADVICE of the U.S. advisers. Such advice forces them to move about in smaller units, in a tactic of attack and withdrawal that presents an ever greater risk to their lives. During the 1981-82 period, 188 officers and soldiers died, including 5 colonels. This has great influence on troop morale. Furthermore, during 1982, the FMLN captured 411 soldiers, who were invariably turned over to the Red Cross.

Even recognizing that the army has a defensive and counteroffensive capacity superior to that of the guerrillas -- and that the strategic balance of forces currently seems to be turning in favor of the guerrillas -- reversing the process seems complex.

In the first place, it would not only demand a substantial increase in personnel and weapons, which seems guaranteed with the U.S. aid, but also a period to train the rank and file in the new tactics.

In this regard, Col Adolfo Blandon, chief of the 1st Infantry Brigade, expressed the need for three additional special battalions and an increase of 2,000 soldiers in the army. THE WASHINGTON POST pointed out that the Pentagon is also studying the intensive training of more than 50 percent of the troops and some 1,500 officers. This would allow sending at least one special infantry battalion, a CAZADOR battalion, to each of the fourteen departments. This would include "several dozen more" U.S. advisers, beyond the existing maximum of 55. These advisers' duties might include brigade-level training in full combat zones, as Weinberger said. Finally, they are considering logistic and Honduran Air Force support, much more coordinated than in the past, according to public information.

In summary, it can be affirmed that the recovery of the army's counteroffensive capacity demands a minimun term during which it must overcome difficult obstacles. During this time, the FMLN has announced new and greater offensive actions.

FMLN COMMANDER ON ELECTIONS, MILITARY SITUATION

PA010142 San Jose LIBERTAD in Spanish 25-31 Mar 83 p 11

[Text] San Salvador, (AIP) -- Guerrilla Commander Arnulfo Sanchez has said that the FMLN would be willing to participate in elections provided they take place within the framework of overall negotiations leading to a solution of the country's problems.

Sanchez, a member of the staff of the Francisco Sanchez Southeastern Front, told Radio Guazapa that the "elections are valid as a part of an overall solution."

Nevertheless, Commander Sanchez described the presidential elections to be held this year as an action to "mask the extermination plans of the Reagan administration and the Salvadoran regime." Sanchez accused the U.S. Administration of trying to intensify and prolong the war by means of granting more economic and military resources to the government.

The rebel commander asserted that the FMLN has been on the offensive since October 1982, and as of December had inflicted more than 500 casualties on the army, taken 300 prisoners of war and seized more than 500 weapons.

Sanchez said that "we have reached very notably coordination levels on the various fronts, and we have also jumped ahead significantly in the technical and tactical aspects in order to strike the enemy more forcefully." He stressed that the morale of the government army is "very deteriorated," and that the military command is involved in bitter disputes caused by the "constant failure in the struggle against the guerrillas."

Sanchez attributed to columns under his command the action in which a U.S. adviser was wounded at the beginning of the year, during the occupation of Berlin, 110 km southwest of the capital.

He recalled that the adviser was riding a UH-1H Huey helicopter. The adviser was wounded when the aircraft flew low to machinegun a rebel post near the Cuscatlan bridge.

VENCEREMOS REPORTS ARMY DEFEAT IN CHALATENANGO

PA020204 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 1 Apr 83

[Text] While in Morazan we defeat the U.S.-trained battalion, our revolutionary army continues to strike at the dictatorship in various points of the country. Here is a war report that has arrived from Chalatenango.

On 22 March, the genocidal forces of the puppet Magana regime concentrated in Chalatenango. Five battalions, which included the elite Ramon Belloso and Atlacatl Battalions, concentrated there to launch an offensive against our positions in Chalatenango Department. The genocidal forces spread out in different directions with the following results. Two battalions entered through (Chiapas) canton, (Cerro El Gallinero) and La Laguna canton. Fighting occurred at (Cerro el Gallinero), 8 km from the city of Chalatenango. The enemy sustained 15 casualties in the fighting. On our part, we sustained one slightly wounded. These two battalions stopped their advance in La Laguna canton, from where they withdrew on 26 March. Three other battalions were deployed in the direction of El Limon, Concepcion Quezaltepeque and Comalapa. These three battalions were unable to fulfill their mission of seizing the town of La Laguna and the mountain of El Volcancillo. They withdrew without achieving their objectives. We inflicted 20 casualties on the enemy there.

Meanwhile, two battalions were deployed in a third direction, to the towns of Dulce Nombre de Maria and San Francisco Morazan, located 10 km from the 4th Brigade garrison.

In summary, the results show the low morale of the enemy troops, since they did not engage in combat to reach our positions. After 4 days of useless efforts, they withdrew without seizing the guerrilla positions in Chalatenango. Long live the FMLN forces in Chalatenango. Revolution or death; the armed people will win! Revolution or death, we will win! United to fight until the final victory!

GUATEMALA

BORDER WITH EL SALVADOR CLOSED AT NIGHT

PA311541 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 30 Apr 83 p 2

[Text] Immigration employees at the border posts with El Salvador are closing the border at night, people coming to the capital for the Holy Week have told our journalists.

According to the travellers, they and many more Salvadorans had to sleep in their vehicles near the border because they were not allowed into the country the night before last. They said that the immigration employees had told them that, due to orders from above, they must close their offices from 2000 until 0600 the next morning.

According to the immigration employees, they don't know exactly why they have been so instructed, but they understand that these are security measures intended to prevent the passage of opponents of the Guatemalan and Salvadoran governments. As a result of this measure, many tourists must sleep out in the open.

According to our sources if, as the employees claim, this is an order from above, the measure should be broadly announced so that tourists are aware of it and can try to cross the border before 2000.

The sources feel that while on the Salvadoran side the immigration border posts function 24 hours a day, conditions in Guatemala are different. This has been an unpleasant surprise for those interested in visiting Guatemala.

They finally said that as Salvadorans it would be very difficult for them to directly notify the Guatemalan officials; therefore they decided to notify the media because these might not be orders from above, but a decision by lower employees.

URNG ANALYSIS REJECTS GOVERNMENT REFORM PLAN

PA312101 San Jose LIBERTAD in Spanish 25-31 Mar 83 p 10

[Text] Guatemala City (ANN) -- The "democratic restoration" promoted by the regime of Gen Efrain Rios Montt, which lacks both the support of the people and the economic resources needed to promote it, so far has received no international support, either.

The Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity (URNG) has made a broad analysis of the most important factors, which indicates that the Guatemalan reform plan will fail and that conditions favorable to "a definite reaffirmation of the people's revolutionary war" are appearing this year.

The analysis points out that the increase in guerrilla activities in the past 3 months denies the regime's reckless announcement that the government defeated the revolutionary forces with its "Victory 82" offensive.

The analysis divides the government's counterinsurgency strategy into various phases, beginning with the March 1982 amnesty, and followed by the imposition of the state of siege, the death penalty, the massacres, the "rifles and beans" policy, the formation of civil defense patrols, the mobilization of sectors of the population called for by fundamentalist sects and, finally, the promise of a democratic opening aimed at softening hesitant sectors and at neutralizing, confusing and annihilating the people's movement.

Although the URNG refers to Rios Montt as a "school teacher type" and a "relatively uncommitted" character, he has been able to fool some "unsatisfied or unaware" urban fundamentalist sectors by creating hopes about a possible institutionalization of the regime through a new constitution, alleged economic reforms and hopes of political and social stabilization. These hopes "are quickly disappearing."

This lack of credibility is compounded with the absence of the needed material basis in a country going through one of the worst economic crises in its history, which the private sector is facing by sending abroad its capital, and the popular sector -- the most adversely affected sector -- by expressing growing displeasure, the URNG document states.

Not even the Central American governments have acknowledged Rios Montt's reform plan, and anxiously expected U.S. military aid has not been approved by the U.S. Congress. Meanwhile, the regime is still being criticized by the United Nations, the people's permanent tribunal, the Nonaligned Countries Movement and other international political and social institutions, the document adds.

HONDURAS

PRESIDENT SUAZO CORDOVA HOLDS NEWS CONFERENCE

PA022343 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1145 GMT 2 Apr 83

[Excerpts] We are presenting a special report from the central zone in Comayagua on the news conference that President Roberto Suazo Cordova offered to a group of U.S. reporters on Holy Thursday. This is the second part of this news conference, transmitted directly from the press department of HRN in Comayagua.

Yesterday we had many problems with the lack of electric power. We also report that yesterday, Good Friday, President Roberto Suzao Cordova held another news conference but with reporters from the FRG. We will report on this as soon as we conclude the second part of this news conference. We will also report on the president's speech in La Paz yesterday.

Now, here is President Suazo Cordova discussing international policy, the Central American crisis and above all the Honduran position now that Nicaragua is following a harassment policy against Honduras. Listen now to this second part of the news conference by Dr Roberto Suazo Cordova with U.S. reporters.

[Begin recording] [Question] Are you concerned about the future of Honduras?

[Answer] Yes, because the revolutionary process or civil war in El Salvador worries us. Should the guerrillas triumph in El Salvador, that would be the end of Honduras and also Guatemala. For the time being, they have not bothered us much because right now they are taking arms and subversion to El Salvador.

patrols of 10 to 12 so-called international brigadists have been passing through the area of Choluteca and El Valle in our territory. Ten of them go through every 48 or 72 hours to reinforce the Salvadoran guerrillas. They also do this by landing by air.

[Question] Mr (Edwards) thought he had read that your administration had more or less stopped the arms traffic.

[Answer] We have stopped the arms traffic and fought the subversives. Afterwards we had the kidnapping of 105 businessmen in the Chamber of Commerce [words indistinct] people from Nicaragua.

[Words indistinct] maintain what is described as people's jails, where citizens and businessmen such as (Paul Vinelli) and (Herman Ale) and (Casanova) were kept. This was the work of FMLN men. The same as the Tupamaros but with an advanced engineering technology.

[Question] This gentleman asks: Since you said that if El Salvador falls, Honduras and Guatemala will be in great danger, but you did not mention the Nicaraguan threat, do you consider the Salvadoran guerrillas a greater threat than the current Nicaraguan Government?

[Answer] Yes, if we consider the fact that if the Salvadoran guerrillas win, Nicaragua will be free to give logistical support to subversives here. Then the Salvadoran guerrillas might strengthen this country's subversives, perhaps with the support of the USSR and Cuba.

If Central America falls, Mexico will follow and then the problem belongs to the United States. We have maintained, and will continue to maintain, close relations with the United States, because we believe it defends democracy, not only in America, but in other countries as well. The whole world would be practically in the hands of Marxism. Marxism is not going to stop its advance. It will always continue to seek [word indistinct].

[Question] In a situation like the present one in Honduras, the armed forces are unfortunately being reinforced slowly. In these times, we have reports of disappearances, police intimidation and secret jails. Should we believe that the armed forces are more dangerous for the leftists? What should we infer from this [words indistinct]?

[Answer] [Words indistinct] in relation to Marxists is the army itself and the armed forces have the constitutional responsibility to guard peace, tranquility and public order. Many of the so-called missing persons have been entering Nicaragua. Many of the missing are in Cuba. They have internal quarrels and then blame the security corps.

When this has happened, I give orders to the public security forces -- that is, to Col Daniel Bali Castillo and military intelligence chief Col Juan Lopez Grilalva through General Alvarez Martinez -- to make all necessary inquires.

One recent case was that of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry, where it was reported that I don't know how many were missing. After 2 or 3 days, these people were saying from Choluteca and Valle; we don't know why we have been reported missing, since we are peacefully working in Choluteca, El Valle and El Paraiso.

[Question indistinct]

[Answer] They were held hostage. This is a flagrant violation of the human rights. But no protest from the human rights commission has been heard. I have not heard any protest from the human rights commission because of the bacteriological war that the USSR is waging in Afghanistan or the invasions carried out from Afghanistan.

In Cuba, workers do not have the right to strike. According to those who have left Cuba, there are constant violations of the human rights.

A reporter, I believe by the name of [name indistinct] who was a prisoner for 20 years in Fidel Castro's jail, spoke of all the abuses against political prisoners. But those world media say absolutely nothing about these human rights violations.

[Question indistinct]

[Answer] (?They are saying that) human rights are being violated, that sovereignty itself is being attacked and that the government and the armed forces sat back and did nothing.

I believe no one has the right to abuse others. Our relations with our army are cordial. A president also has the responsibility to watch over the armed forces' needs. We want to professionalize our armed forces. Costa Rica has never had an army but compared to El Salvador, Nicaragua and Guatemala, (?I believe) Honduras is the country with the fewest weapons. There is no military balance. That is why in our peace initiative we proposed disarmament in Central America. We said, and I reiterate, that our borders are open so that an international committee can come to check ports and airports. Nicaragua will not accept such a thing because you would find who knows how many tanks and how much artillery.

[Question] Do you in any sense see Honduras as a pawn in a chess game whose players are the Soviet Union and the United States?

[Answer] Well, the truth is that [words indistinct] and we always have to be on the side of the United States. I know how to play chess and I will know how to move my pawns here in Honduras to checkmate international communism in Central America.

[Question indistinct]

[Answer] Many say that Honduras is the springboard for an invasion of Nicaragua. That is just part of a campaign against us. The thing is that they have internal problems in Nicaragua. They want to overcome those problems by carrying out an international campaign against us. Since they are a member of the security council, they went to the United Nations [words indistinct] was rejected at the United Nations and they took it to the OAS. We propose a foreign ministers meeting because the problem is not Honduras and Nicaragua. The problem is regional and global.

[Question indistinct]

[Answer] Since it is a regional and a global problem we have proposed a foreign ministers meeting as a step prior to a possible meeting at a higher level. We have proposed to Foreign Minister d'Escoto that he come to Honduras with journalists to inspect the Honduran border, to see if he can find armed counterrevolutionary camps. What they will find there are camps of Nicaraguan refugees who are persecuted by the Sandinist regime. Nevertheless, D'Escoto has yet to accept our invitation. [end recording]

LEFTIST GROUPS DEPLORE ATTACK ON NICARAGUA

PA312116 Paris AFP in Spanish 1352 GMT 30 Mar 83

[Text] Mexico City, 30 Mar (AFP) -- Honduran political organizations issued a communique here stating that "the attacks on Nicaragua by CIA-supported Somozist forces from Honduran territory could lead to an unpredictable and senseless war."

The document is signed jointly by the Honduran Communist Party, the Revolutionary Party of Central American Workers, the Morazanist Front for the Liberation of Honduras, the Cinchoneros People's Liberation Movement, and the Lorenzo Zelaya Peoples Revolutionary Forces.

The groups that singed the communique pointed out that "neither laborers, peasants, businessmen nor the people in general have any reason to fight once again against the people of El Salvador and Nicaragua," and called on "all the country's sectors to start a movement to force President Roberto Suazo Cordova to withdraw support from the Somozists."

NICARAGUA

HIGH-LEVEL MEETING WITH COSTA RICA SET FOR 4 APR

PA030437 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0200 GMT 3 Apr 83

[Text] Everything is ready for the high-level meeting that Costa Rican and Nicaraguan delegations will hold on Monday, 4 April, in San Juan del Sur. The Nicaraguan delegation will include Commander of the Revolution Tomas Borge, interior minister; Commander of the Revolution Humberto Ortega Saavedra, defense minister; Nora Astorga, acting foreign minister; and their respective advisers. The Costa Rican delegation will include Foreign Minister Fernando Volio Jimenez, Public Security Minister Angel Edmundo Solano and Interior Minister Alfonso Carro.

The two government delegations will discuss border problems as well as problems that have caused tension in bilateral relations. In this regard, Rogelio Ramirez Mercado, Nicaraguan ambassador to Costa Rica, has told the Costa Rican media that the high-level meeting should not only be held but that it is absolutely essential for improving bilateral relations.

BORGE WARNS OF COUNTERREVOLUTIONARY PLANS

PA020137 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 2 Apr 83

[Text] Nicaraguan Interior Minister Commander Tomas Borge has said that Sandinist troops inflicted 40 casualties on counterrevolutionary forces in Jinotega Department.

At the funeral services for three members of the Pablo Ubeda Battalion killed in combat last Tuesday, Borge praised the courage of the Sandinist soldiers. He also said that U.S. President Ronald Reagan's statement that the Nicaraguan revolution is a military tnreat to the United States is ridiculous.

Borge Also said that, according to intelligence reports, armed attacks are expected in the region bordering on Costa Rica, and that these attacks are aimed at infiltrating counterrevolutionary elements into the Nueva Guinea region, between Chontales and Zelaya Sur Departments.

Borge denied rumors spread by internal reactionaries in relation to alleged plans to kill Monsignor Miguel Obando y Bravo, archbishop of Managua, and priest Bismarck Carballo, the Curia's spokesman. He alerted the people to the possibility that counterrevolutionary groups might try to kill them with the intention of blaming the Sandinist government.

GOVERNMENT BANS BROADCAST OF HOLY WEEK SERVICES

PA011320 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0212 GMT 1 Apr 83

[Text] Managua, 31 Mar (ACAN-EFE) -- Msgr Miguel Obando y Bravo, archbishop of Managua, today confirmed that a government prohibition bans the live broadcast of Holy Week religious services.

Monsignor Obando y Bravo mentioned the limitations imposed by the Sandinist government at a Chrismatory mass jointly celebrated by all the Managua archdiocese priests.

The mass was held at the santo domingo church, located in former downtown Managua which was destroyed in the 1972 Christmas Eve earthquake.

The Catholic church was crowded, and many people had to follow the religious services from surrounding areas.

During the celebrated mass, the people cheered the Nicaraguan Catholic Church and Pope John Paul II.

While he celebrated mass, Monsignor Obando y Bravo wore the chasuble he received as a gift from the pope during his visit to Nicaragua on 4 March. A spokesman of the Managua curia said that with the beginning today of "the heavy program schedule for Holy Week, the active participation of Nicaraguans in the religious services is evident."

STATE COUNCIL SENDS MESSAGE TO PARLIAMENTS

PA311736 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 31 Mar 83

[Text] The Nicaraguan State Council has said that the aggression to which that country is being subjected could provoke a war in Central America through the regionalization of the conflict. In a message to the parliaments of the world, the council called for solidarity with Nicaragua. It also called for the efforts necessary to seek a negotiated political solution in the Central American region.

The Nicaraguan State Council also warned of the possibility that Honduras might become voluntarily or involuntarily involved in the conflict. The council said that there is concern over the concentration of troops in the Honduran city of Choluteca, some 30 km from the Nicaraguan border.

The message, signed by State Council President Carlos Nunez, said that the United States is financing, arming and training the former Somozist guardsmen.

In Managua, Interior Minister Tomas Borge said that the Sandinist air force bombed a landing strip used by helicopters and light planes coming from Honduras to supply the counterrevolutionaries. He added that at the same time, members of the Interior Ministry's Pablo Ubeda Brigade carried out a ground attack on the counterrevolutionaries who had infiltrated the site in Jinotega Department.

EPS CLAIMS 11 'COUNTERREVOLUTIONARIES' KILLED

PA021907 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1829 GMT 2 Apr 83

[Text] The Sandinist People's Army, EPS, continues victorious in its confrontations with the invasion launched by the U.S. imperialism against the Nicaraguan people.

In recent days 11 Somozist counterrevolutionaries have died in their criminal attacks on our civilian population. At 0730, on 31 March, push-pull [in English] airplane of the Sandinist air force, an arm of the EPS, sank a raft in which six Somozist invaders crossed the Coco River to the Nicaraguan side, 5 km west of point (?Pliss), and the six counterrevolutionaries were annihilated.

Today, 2 April, at 0600, the EPS engaged in combat with a group of counterrevolutionaries who planned to attack the settlement of Limon, 10 km northwest of Jalapa.

The fight lasted 1 and 1/2 hours. Five counterrevolutionaries were killed and one wounded. Five FAL riles were recovered. The Nicaraguan people suffered no civilian or military casualites.

This is how, day after day, the U.S. imperialism's criminal purposes face the people's firm will, which guarantees that the assassins who bombed and killed our people will never return.

Rebels Reported Routed

PA040412 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0200 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] The counterrevolutionaries have suffered another defeat; this time it was in El Cacao, 26 km northeast of Matiguas, Matagalpa. The Sandinist armed forces continue to deal harsh blows to the counterrevolutionary Somozist units. This has been confirmed by the results of the clash that took place yesterday at 1540 in the sector known as El Cacao, 26 km northeast of Matiguas.

In the armed clash the counterrevolutionaries lost 10 Somozists and the large amount of ammunition they left behind as they fled in disarray from the advance of the EPS [Sandinist Peoples Army] forces.

The EPS lost no men in the El Cacao clash, which demonstrates the solid training of our armed forces and our soldiers' firm determination to fight the enemy, thereby allowing the rest of the population to enjoy their Holy Week vacation at the country's resorts and beaches.

Rebel Boat Reported 'Sunk'

PA040404 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] According to a report from the Nicaraguan capital of Managua, 11 counter-revolutionaries have been killed in the latest fighting in northern Nicaragua near the border with Honduras. The report adds that 5 bandits died and 1 was captured during an attack by 60 former Somozist guardsmen against the Nicaraguan town of Limon.

Thursday, the Sandinist air force sank a barge on which six counterrevolutionaires were trying to enter Nicaraguan territory. The day before, defense forces repelled an enemy incursion aimed at sabotaging La Esperanza tobacco farm. A Nicaraguan child was wounded in this attack.

In Managua, Commander Carlos Nunez, president of the Nicaraguan State Council, charged that the new escalation of the aggressions against Nicaragua is financed by the United States and aimed at creating the necessary conditions to justify Washington's direct intervention in Central America.

RAMIREZ BLAMES U.S. FOR DEATH OF FRENCH DOCTOR

PA012124 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 28 Mar 83 pp 1, 6

[Excerpt] Dr Sergio Ramirez [member of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction] said yesterday that the leaders of the U.S. Government, who use Somozist guards to kill and torture the people, are the killers directly responsible for the murder of French doctor Pierre Grosjean. Sergio Ramirez made the statement during the homage that the government and the FSLN National Directorate paid to the young internationalist.

Our people, Sergio Ramirez said, will never cease being thankful for the humanitarian work of the murdered doctor. Now we have his example and sacrifice, which will lead us to struggle until we reach final victory.

The ceremony of posthumous homage was attended by Rosangela Mesquita -- Pierre's wife -- a large group of internationalists, the government cabinet, and the French charge d'affaires. Sergio Ramirez reported that the genocidal elements suffered four dead in the attack on Rancho Grande and that, full of anger, they fired their mortars on the defenseless civilian population, killing or wounding peasants, children, women and elderly people.

The French charge d'affaires, Francoise Boche, said that Pierre's example will become a symbol of unity between France and Nicaragua to expand programs of cooperation in the fields of health and culture.

Boche thanked his fellow countrymen for their professional sacrifice and pointed out that the French have come to love and respect the Nicaraguan people.

REBEL ATTACK ON EL LIMON; NUNEZ STATEMENT

PA030215 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 3 Apr 83

[Text] Five counterrevolutionaries were killed and one captured in an attack that about 60 former Somozist guardsmen staged on the Nicaraguan town of El Limon, 8 km from the Honduran border. Nine border guardsmen and many militiamen withstood the attack on Limon for an hour until reinforcements from the Sandinist Peoples Army arrived. The reinforcements are pursuing the Somozist counterrevolutionaries who are withdrawing to Honduras.

The PRENSA LATINA special correspondent reported that when journalists arrived in El Limon at the end of the fighting, the citizens were calm and determined to again successfully confront any attack similar to the one today which began at 0530. The Nicaraguan combatants explained to the journalists that the counterrevolutionary groups belong to the so-called task force which receives U.S. advice.

Commander Carlos Nunez, president of the Nicaraguan State Council, has charged in Managua that the new aggressive escalation against the Sandinist revolution is financed by the United States that seeks to create conditions which would justify Washington's direct intervention in Central America. It is not by chance, Nunez stressed, that the U.S. propaganda machine is trying to make people believe that there is something like a civil war in Nicaragua when in truth the military attacks come from groups of former Somozist guardsmen infiltrated from Honduras.

CDS URGE 'CLOSING OF RANKS' IN TROUBLED TIMES

PA311748 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 24 Mar 83 pp 1, 8

[Excerpts] In a message yesterday to "all those who feel their beings vibrate in the face of the injustice of oppressors and exploiters," the National Executive Council [CEN] of the Sandinist Defense Committees [CDS] called for a closing of ranks at a time when the homeland is being attacked and its children murdered.

"Our organized people must close ranks and must cause the rest of our people to imitate them in order to respond again to imperialism, its lackeys and traitors," the document adds.

"The current situation," the message says, "is part of an aggressive escalation implemented, supported and directed by Yankee imperialism. With the complexity and pain that it involves for our people, it is a real manifestation of the fact that we are active in a true revolution, because when a revolution is true, it engenders its counter part, counterrevolution."

The CEN then sums up the advances of the Nicaraguan revolutionary process, noting that "today's world developments derive from the sick and obtuse mind currently directing the U.S. destiny." Our people's response, it adds, "is unanimous, anti-imperialist, strong and Sandinist."

The CEN sums that response up in three points: The first, is defense. The CEN says that forces must be readied to the maximum, incorporating more companeros to a revolutionary vigilance that will "guarantee the security of strategic social and economic targets."

Concerning the consumers' defense, the CEN document stresses that "we cannot dissociate it from the current situation created by the enemies of the Sandinist people's revolution," adding that "It might well be that part of that aggressive escalation is intended to create shortages of the basic products."

The third line of action that the CDS demand that our revolutionary people implement is the ideological struggle.

It should be explained, the document notes, "that in this process there is no room for those who exploited the people, much less for those who stained their hands with blood."

Further on, the document states that "true Christians are with the revolution and wage the revolution because between Christianity and revolution... there is no contradiction.

"In short," the communique notes, "we urge our organizations to intensify their daily activities, to rally our people around our indisputable vanguard, and to reaffirm the fact that this process is irreversible because we are free and will never again be slaves."

ARDE LEADER URGES COORDINATION WITH FDN

PA010132 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1952 GMT 31 Mar 83

[Text] San Jose, 31 Mar (ACAN-EFE) -- Fabio Gadea Mantilla, exiled anti-Sandinist leader and member of the Directorate of the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, Arde -- which was created by Alfonso Robelo and Eden Pastora, Commander Cero -- said here today that Nicaraguans must unite to defeat the present rulers of his country.

Gadea said: "The least we can do at the present time is coordinate our actions with the Nicaraguan Democratic Force, FDN, whose forces are fighting in the north and center of Nicaragua."

According to the exiled leader, the FDN is gaining support among the people in the towns where the organization is fighting against the Sandinist army.

Gadea felt that the FDN has very worthy members among its ranks; even though its ranks include former members of the Somozist national guard, they have not been charged with crimes or abuses.

Referring to the forces being lead by Fernando Chamorro Rapaccioli, alias "El Negro," Gadea recalled that he is an honest and courageous revolutionary who fought beside Pastora on the southern front in 1979 against the Somozist army.

The exiled politician explained: "Later on Chamorro Rapaccioli witnessed the commanders' betrayal and joined the struggle to liberate his homeland from communism."

Referring to Chamorro Rapaccioli's estrangement from Arde, Gadea said there are no real differences, and the separation took place "by common agreement."

FDN CLAIMS SUCCESSES IN NUEVA SEGOVIA, ZELAYA

PA040133 Paris AFP in Spanish 2318 GMT 3 Apr 83

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 3 Apr (AFP) -- At least 56 soldiers of the Sandinist Peoples Army [EPS] were killed between Thursday and Good Friday in combat with guerrillas of the Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN) in Nueva Segovia and Zelaya in northern and eastern Nicaragua, guerrilla sources reported today.

An FDN report distributed in Tegucigalpa states that 41 Sandinist soldiers were killed Thursday when the Jorge Salazar task force attacked the El Corozo military post in Nueva Segovia Department, northern Nicaragua.

The note also indicates that Miskito Indian commandos ambushed a patrol of 20 Sandinist soldiers on Friday. The ambush occurred along the highway between Slima-Lila and Bilwaskarma in Zelaya Department on the Atlantic coast; 15 soldiers were reportedly killed.

The Slima-Lila garrison in northern Zelaya "was totally destroyed as a result of the fierce combat. Most of its 128 soldiers fled in disarray," the communique added:

The FDN report indicates that combat units of the Miskito, Suma, Rama Sandinist Unity, Misurasata, led by Commander Steadman Fagoth are actively participating in the armed struggle against the Sandinist regime, especially in Nicaragua's Atlantic region.

In view of this situation, the FDN added, Sandinist aircraft have carried out "indiscriminate bombings" of the Miskito villages, thus forcing the mass exodus of Indians toward Honduras.

The rebels claim that some 2,000 Miskitos entered Honduras this weekend, crossing the sector of Suhi and "carrying with them hundreds of wounded who had been hit by gunfire from Sandinist planes."

Furthermore, the FDN affirmed that "several thousand Miskito Indians" are now fleeing toward Honduras after escaping "from the Francia Serpe concentration camp located some 48 km from the border."

"In its genocidal air operations the Sandinist air force is using T-33 jets and push and pull [in English] gunships equipped with .40-cal machineguns," the Nicaraguan opposition has charged.

However, the FDN proclaimed at the same time that the Misurasata commandos "have control" of all the rural zone of Zelaya where they even downed a push and pull [in English] last Tuesday as it was overflying the area of the Bonanza gold mine in the Sierra Negra.

This reportedly is the fourth aircraft downed or damaged by the Somozist guerrillas in a week, according to the FDN report.

A Cessna-185 gunship equipped with rockets was reportedly downed Monday in Las Hamacas, Jinotega; a day later in that same area another plane, a T-28, was also hit by rebel fire, according to the FDN.

It was also said that the anti-Sandinist guerrillas attacked the Waslala garrison in Matagalpa and downed an aircraft which was based in the township of Bilwaskarma on Nicaragua's Atlantic coast.

HAVANA ON CONTINUED U.S. PLANS AGAINST NICARAGUA

PA311437 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 30 Mar 83

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] President Reagan's administration imperturbably continues its destabilizing and hot war plans against the heroic Nicaraguan people. The attacks against Nicaragua by Somozist forces, which are supported and armed by the Honduran Government, with U.S. encouragement, have ceased to be a movement marked by infiltrations and skirmishes, and become an invasion involving over 2,000 people.

The U.S. magazine TIME, which is very far from identifying with a leftist or progressive line, claims that the Washington government is deeply involved with the counterrevolutionary forces attacking Nicaragua from Honduras to overthrow the Sandinist government. The publication discloses nothing new -- but it is worth insisting on this aspect -- when it stresses that, according to sources of the Nicaraguan Democratic Front [FDN], the CIA provides complete training and financing for the bands of former Somozist guardsmen, many of them inveterate murderers.

The magazine also notes that President Reagan's ambassador in Tegucigalpa, John Negroponte, coordinates the counterrevolutionary activities. This amounts to saying that he is an accomplice in the banditry and crime perpetrated against the defenseless Nicaraguan villages near the Honduran border. Negroponte is merely an executioner with a diplomatic title, collar and tie, claiming to be a decent person.

TIME says that the self-styled FDN is an organization with a coordinating political committee of three military bodies, one of which is made up of experienced CIA agents and representatives of the U.S. Army's Southern Command, based in Panama. The publication adds that this body is the brain of the operations. It transmits orders to another body comprising Honduran military and an Argentine representative, which in turn, transmits orders to the chiefs of the counterrevolutionary gang.

In line with this, former Somozist guardsman (Freddy Antonio S. Bidaure) has indicated that the Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries have the support of elements from the United States, Honduras, Argentina and Israel. These actions, ordered by President Reagan against Nicaragua through Honduran puppets are a bit more than mere skirmishes and infiltrations.

This is confirmed by Sergio Ramirez, member of the Nicaraguan Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction. In remarks published by THE NEW YORK TIMES, Ramirez said that currently there are no less than 2000 armed counterrevolutionaries throughout the country. Ramirez explained, however, that even if there were 10,000, they would still not pose a serious threat to the Sandinist people's revolution.

According to the U.S. television network NBC, the current infiltration of counterrevolutionary elements in Nicaragua is part of what is known in U.S. circles as the second phase of a long-term CIA plan. The first phase consisted of recruiting and training the counterrevolutionaries in Honduras.

Back in Washington, of course, surrounded by a large ultrareactionary court, President Reagan goes on with his clumsy, irrational and criminal plans against Central America, ignoring the intelligent arguments wielded by the governments of France, Mexico, Venezuela, Panama and others in favor of a search for political solutions. Reagan and his team of advisers will never find solutions based on force and arrogance. The more efforts are made to subjugate it, the stronger and more vigorous the Sandinist revolution becomes. It advances with the support of the entire Nicaraguan people and the solidarity of all peoples.

GRANMA EDITORIAL OPENS GIRON IDEOLOGICAL DRIVE

FL011645 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 1 Apr 83

[Text] The Giron Ideological Drive has been launched with a ceremony held at the Havana Transmission and Distribution Enterprise. GRANMA Newspaper, official organ of the Communist Party of Cuba, today dedicates a militant editorial to the Giron epic.

In today's editorial, GRANMA says: As has become traditional in our country, we open the Giron Victory Ideological Drive as a special tribute rendered by the political and mass organizations and by the entire nation. This ideological drive is dedicated to those who, 22 years ago -- while fighting U.S. imperialism's mercenary attack -- shed their blood and gave their lives, sealing the consolidation of the socialist revolution with their heroism and thereby safeguarding the integrity and independence of the fatherland.

Since then, as Fidel has said, Latin American and Caribbean peoples have been freer. Since then, imperialistm's swagger has failed to instill fear in this hemisphere. Since then, the geopolitical argument used by weak political figures in America, in the sense that Yankee imperialist power would crush any revolutionary process in this part of the world, has been refuted.

GRANMA says that this ideological drive will be linked in all he country's sectors to the accomplishment of all tasks emanating from the economic and social program which the nation has set for itself to fulfill the resolution of the sixth party plenum and to make the necessary and urgent efforts to recover from economic setbacks we have suffered as a result of the abnormally bad weather which has repeatedly hit the country since January.

GRANMA says that if then our country stood united in defense of the fatherland in Playa Giron, today -- recalling the martyrs and heroes of that exploit -- it mobilizes in the fields and in the factories to overcome the losses suffered by the economy and to respond to our party's call to make 1983 a year of efficiency in production and in ervices with a maximum of conservation and austerity.

OCLAE VOICES SUPPORT FOR GRENADIAN REVOLUTION

FL011830 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 1 Apr 83

[Text] The permanent secretariat of the Continental Organization of Latin American Students -- OCLAE -- has released a statement of solidarity with the Grenadian revolution. It reads as follows:

In view of the growing aggressiveness of Yankee imperialist policy against the heroic people of Grenada, the OCLAE permanent secretariat declares its most resolute solidarity with this small country which has become an example of the struggle to the peoples of the Caribbean. The international public has recently learned of the Reagan administration's new and threatening statements, particularly those regarding the Central American and Caribbean situation.

The aforementioned statements were aimed directly at the victorious revolutions of Cuba, Nicaragua and Grenada, and pose a serious threat against the peace, sovereignty and independence of the peoples of the region. In his statements, Reagan repeatedly referred to the Grenadian revolution, singling it out as a threat to the security of the United States -- a ridiculous allegation, which is aimed at getting approval for his adventurous and interventionist policy in the area from the Senate and the American people.

COMMITTEE FORMED FOR PALESTINIAN ISSUE MEETINGS

FL301305 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 30 Mar 83

[Text] The Cuban Committee in Support of the International Conference on the Palestinian Issue, slated to be held from 16 to 27 August 1983 in Paris, has been formed in Havana under the presidency of Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca. The vice presidency and executive secretariat fell to Levi Farah, a government minister and president of the Cuban-Arab Friendship Association. The secretariat comprises representatives from the Foreign Ministry, the Cuban-Arab Friendship Association, the center for African and Middle Eastern Studies and the Cuban Institute of Friendship with Peoples. The committee will provide support to the regional conference on the Palestinian issue, slated to be held in Managua, Nicaragua, from 11 to 15 April 1983.

RODRIGUEZ LLOMPART PRAISES RELATIONS WTIH SOVIETS

FL011725 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1503 GMT 1 Apr 83

[Text] Hector Rodriguez Llompart, president of Cuba's State Committee for Economic Cooperation, has said that trade with the Soviet Union is the foundation of the development of Cuba's national economy. Rodriguez Llompart headed our country's delegation to the economic and technical cooperation talks with the Soviet Union, which concluded today in Moscow.

Rodriguez Llompart said that without the assistance provided by the USSR, Cuba could not have achieved its present tage of development or broken the economic blockade waged against our country by the United States and (?seconded) by other imperialist nations.

Hector Rodriguez Llompart said that the talks, which concluded in Moscow today, constitute one more demonstration that Soviet-Cuban economic relations set an example of cooperation between two states.

Protocol Signed

FL011945 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 1 Apr 83

[Text Vitaliy Morozov and Hector Rodriguez Llompart signed a protocol today regarding the results of the Soviet-Cuban talks on the implementation of the Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement for the years 1981-1986.

Cuba's president of the State Committee for Economic Cooperation ended a visit to the Soviet Union today, during which he had meetings with first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers Ivan Arkhipov, first deputy chairman of the state committee for foreign economic relations Vitaliy Morozov, and with first deputy chairman of the State Planning Committee N. Inozemtsev.

The two parties stressed the high level of relations that has been attained between the Soviet Union and Cuba.

GRENADA

GOVERNMENT LAUNCHES MAJOR DIPLOMATIC CAMPAIGN

FL021855 Bridgetown CANA in English 1830 GMT 2 Mar 83

[Text] St Georges, Grenada, April 2, CANA -- The leftwing People's Revolutionary Government (PRG) has launched a major diplomatic campaign abroad to sensitise the international community about the danger posed by what it says is a United States-supported plan by mercenaries to invade Grenada.

The government-run "FREE WEST INDIAN" newspaper said the PRG, whose close ties with communist Cuba have annoyed Washington, has dispatched the letters to several world leaders and international organisations about the alleged invasion plan.

Letters have been sent to President Francois Mitterrand of France, the prime ministers of Spain, Sweden and Greece, the chancellor of Austria, secretary-general of the Commonwealth, Shridath Ramphal, and Jamaica's opposition leader, Michael Manley, who is a vice-president of Socialist International (SI).

The bi-weekly newspaper also said Prime Minister Maurice Bishop had also written influential government bodies in the United States including the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, the House Foreign Affairs Committee, the Inter-American Sub-committee, and the congressional black caucus.

The paper said in all these letters, the Grenada Government which came to power in a March 13, 1979 coup, underscored its repeated attempts to establish good relations with the United States.

"THE FREE WEST INDIAN" also said that as part of its moves to counter the alleged U.S. supported plan, the Grenada Government had instructed ambassador to the United Nations, Caldwell Taylor, and Dessima Williams, ambassador to the Organisation of American States (OAS) to mobilise Grenadians in the United States to protest the planned invasion.

Prime Minister Bishop, in a nation-wide address on March 23, said his government had "concrete intelligence information" that the American Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) was planning to invade the country in order to topple his administration.

Bishop also said then that the CIA had offered money, arms and ammunition to overseas-based Grenadians opposed to his government, as well as offers of transportation, logistical support and supplies, and a promise that immediately on launching their attack on Grenada, their new government would receive recognition from the United States.

COOPERATION AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH FRANCE

FL011103 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0401 GMT 1 Apr 83

[Text] St Georges, 31 Mar (NOTIMEX) -- Grenada and France today signed a 5-year technical assistance and cooperation agreement in the agriculture, health and education sectors. French assistance will be in the form of specialized studies, supply of equipment, visits by experts and technicians and financial support from the French Technical Assistance and Cooperation fund.

This agreement was the result of Prime Minister Maurice Bishop's visit to France last September, during which he held talks with President Francois Mitterrand. Bishop said the agreement with the French would be very important for Grenada and would add a new dimension to the assistance coming into the region from abroad.

GOVERNMENT ENACTS NEW PRIVATE INVESTMENT CODE

FL021705 Bridgetown CANA in English 1659 GMT 2 Apr 83

[Text] St Georges, Grenada, April 2, CANA -- The People's Revolutionary Government (PRG) has introduced an investment code which, it says, will guide all future investments by private businessmen on the island.

Deputy Prime Minister Bernard Coard said the law introducing the code was proclaimed by the PRG on March 2 after two years of intensive discussions between government and private sector organisations here.

Coard did not outline the provisions of the new measure, but said it represents two years of thinking, research and discussions of a joint team made up of representatives of the government, the Employers Federation, the Grenada Hotels Association, and the Grenada Chamber of Industry and Commerce.

Government, he said, saw the investment code not only as a document of "great importance" in the building of the Grenada economy, but also of "tremendous significance" in terms of the package of incentives which it provides especially for private sector investment in the areas of tourism and manufacturing.

"We have said publicly and privately to our people as a whole, and to the private sector directly, that we want you out of merchandising, out of importing and wholesaling, out of margin gathering and into direct production," Coard said.

Coard said the days when the private sector simply imported goods, slapped a mark-up on them and then sold them to consumers was over in this country.

The Grenada deputy prime minister said government wanted to see the local private sector move away from what he referred to as invoice form technology into direct production because the country could only be built by direct production.

"We have to move to the technology of direct production, and therefore, we are providing a package of very attractive incentives of a wide variety of kinds in order to give the maximum encouragement to our private sector to invest in the area of industrialisation of our country, and the area of hotel construction and tourism expansion," Coard said.

"These are the two areas where our future lay as a people, and we invite the private sector to join with the state sector in doing this task," he added.

STATE SECTOR TO PRODUCE $5 MILLION PROFIT

FL012056 Bridgetown CANA in English 2022 GMT 1 Apr 83

[Text] St Georges, Grenada, April 1, (CANA) -- Grenada's People's Revolutionary Government says it expects the state sector to produce a 5 million dollar (one e.c. dollar 37 cents U.S.) net profit this year, an increase of two million dollars over 1982.

Deputy prime minister and minister of planning, trade and finance, Bernard Coard said that in 1983 the value of production from state sector has been projected at 95 million dollars, 30.3 percent more than last year's 72.9 million. Coard said last year the output from the state sector went up by some 34 per cent over the 1981 figure, which stood at 54.4 million dollars. He estimated that output from the private sector should rise by about eight per cent in 1983 over that of last year's, which itself increased by 10 percent over 1981.

The anticipated 1983 net profit in the private sector is put at 2.5 million dollars. The minister expects that in 1983 some 400 new jobs created in direction production in the state sector will compliment the 650 jobs created last year. Grenada's inflation rate for 1983 is projected at 8.5 per cent following last year's 7 percent.

In the area of exports, Minister Coard said that in 1983 [words indistinct] Grenada's overall exports will be from traditional crops such as cocoa, nutmegs and bananas, while 40 percent will be from non-traditional products. Overall, he said, Grenada expects to export about 53,200,000 dollars worth of produce, an increase of 6.2 percent over last year. In 1982, he said, Grenada sold some 50,100,000 dollars worth of goods to countries in the Caribbean Community and elsewhere.

JAMAICA

SEAGA REPORTS BUDGET SAVINGS TO PARLIAMENT

FL310012 Bridgetown CANA in English 2209 GMT 30 Mar 83

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Mar 30, CANA -- Jamaica will have a 65 million dollars (1 JCA dollar; 56 cents U.S.) savings on its 1982/83 budget at the end of the fiscal year tomorrow, Prime Minister Edward Seaga told Parliament last night.

Mr Seaga, debating final estimates on revenue and expenditure, said that the savings was because of a cutback in expenditure on the 2,771 million dollar (J) budget he presented to Parliament last year, plus a 25 million dollar increase in government resources, originally projected at 1,736.8 million dollars. The prime minister said that the outturn figures showed that the provisions set at the beginning of the year were adequate and that the budget had been financed as planned.

when the final estimates were tabled in the House of Representatives earlier in the month, a saving of 115,000 dollars (J) was expected, unusual for budgets here. Against this backdrop, the dramatic increase to a 65 million dollar saving is significant.

Mr Seaga, who is also minister of finance, on the question of the under spending, said that there had been a shortfall in external financing, as foreign institutions were requiring more exhaustive prefinancing programmes than previously, thus holding up some projects. Delayed projects would come on stream during the new financial year, he said. The prime minister also said that a reduction in external money because of international economic conditions had caused the government to increase its financing from domestic sources.

Some observers here believe that the government was also forced to cut down its spending to keep close to International Monetary Fund (IMF) guidelines for budgetary deficits as a percentage of gross domestic product (GDP). This issue had been thorny, as Jamaica and the fund negotiated the island's third year economic programme under a three-year 650 million dollar (U.S.) extended fund facility (EFF).

Jamaica had been resisting IMF pressures to reduce the 1983/84 budget to a level, according to information published in the United States, where the government claimed it would require the dismissal of 10,000 workers here. But Mr Seaga recently said that Jamaica and the fund had reached an "understanding" and final agreement was now being prepared for details of the package to be announced with the next budget. He told Parliament last night that the 1982/83 budget was expected to show a deficit of 13.5 percent of GDP, 0.2 percent better than the government had originally projected, but still higher than the 12.9 percent the IMF had urged.

The fund had urged a current account deficit of 1.6 percent of GDP, but the final outturn would be around 1.97 percent, better than the original government estimate of 2.5 percent. Mr Seaga said, however, the final outturn figures were only indicative and would not affect the arrangement with the IMF.

ST VINCENT & GRENADINES

TECHNICAL AID AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH FRANCE

FL012028 Bridgetown CANA in English 2000 GMT 1 Apr 83

[Text] Kingstown, St Vincent, April 1, CANA -- St Vincent and the Grenadines and France have signed an aid and technical assistance agreement in Kingstown. It enables this country to receive assistance from the French aid and co-operation fund and to qualify for technical expertise and equipment from France. France's non-resident ambassador to St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Francoise Claude-Lafontaine and Prime Minister Milton Cato, who signed the agreement, said they hoped it would lead to the strengthening of existing relations between their respective countries. The two countries established diplomatic relations at non-ambassadorial level in January this year.

TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

EXPRESS EDITORIAL ASSAILS GRENADIAN REVOLUTION

FL021630 Bridgetown CANA in English 1619 GMT 2 Apr 83

[Text] Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, April 2, CANA -- The TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO EXPRESS has termed the Grenada revolution "a betrayal of the Grenadian and West Indian people" leading them to believe that the choice in their lives is from one kind of despotism to another. In an editorial comment, the newspaper queried the reasons for the fears harboured by Grenada Prime Minister Maurice Bishop for Leslie Pierre, editor of the banned "Grenada Voice" newspaper, who has been detained for the past 18 months by the government there.

Mr Bishop deposed the eccentric Eric Gairy and seized power in a coup on March 13, 1979 and Pierre was detained shortly afterwards, following the publication of a series of articles critical of the government. "Why should the prime minister of Grenada so fear the editor of the newspaper he so summarily closed that he now finds it necessary to make up all kinds of stories about him," the EXPRESS asked in reference to comments made by Mr Bishop in an interview it published last Sunday.

"It is all very well for Mr Bishop to say that Grenadians, for example, are free to criticise the operations of the Ministry of Health, but the question must be really whether they are also free to criticise the political direction of the government over which he presides." The EXPRESS added: "The truth is, of course, that the Grenadian revolution, in spite of the economic achievements that have been made, is in a real sense a betrayal of the Grenadian and West Indian people, in that it will lead many of our citizens to believe that the choice in their lives is from one kind of despotism to another."

The paper said that a government that allows any kind of criticism except that which challenges its own entrenchment "is carefully managing that criticism to serve its own interest and that is why it is important for Mr Bishop to arrogantly equate that interest with the interest of the Grenadian people." The EXPRESS has been in the forefront of a regional media campaign to have Pierre and other political prisoners in Grenada freed.

BOUTERSE TO STRENGTHEN TIES WITH REGIONAL POWERS

FL251840 Bridgetown CANA in English 1736 GMT 25 Mar 83

[Text] Paramaribo, Suriname, March 25, CANA -- Suriname's military leader Lt Colonel Daysi Bouterse has said his country remains committed to a non-aligned foreign policy and intends to fortify its relations with Latin America and the Caribbean. The military leader added that Suriname would not hesitate to openly call for solidarity of all its friends in the region in the event of aggression.

"Suriname will continue its policy of non-aligned and will maintain and fortify its relations with the fraternal peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean," he said in an interview carried in the February-March issue of SOBERANIA magazine, which is published in Nicaragua.

Lt Colonel Bouterse highlighted the gains made in the three years since the military overthrew the government here including the building of ten times more roads and houses than in the four years of the deposed regime.

The army commander said that if his government had chosen to implant a military dictatorship "today we would be enjoying the support of imperialism, the revolutionary process would not be having any kind of destabilisation campaign or conspiracies to try to crush us." He said that after rejecting the option of returning power to the dominant groups, Suriname chose the course of advancing toward the winning of genuine national independence and sovereignty.

With regard to the Netherland's suspension last December of its development aid to Suriname and the severing of military and cultural agreements, the army commander said that although this was detrimental in the economic sense, it promoted the popular struggle, because it helped the people to understand the threats. "It has helped us even more because our people have gained awarness of the need to strengthen their unity to defeat any kind of armed aggression."

The army commander said that although any kind of aid was important to an underdeveloped country, in the case of the Netherlands "it was always a method for keeping the country dependent." The bulk of the funds contributed by Holland returned to the point of origin because it was supplied under certain conditions, he said.

Lt Colonel Bouterse said that no retaliatory action had been taken against Dutch companies in Suriname but "that does not in any way mean we are going to allow our country to be harmed..."

He said that if The Hague was prepared to respect Suriname's sovereignty, relations could improve. "If they think they can blackmail us though the aid that they are bound by treaty to grant to us, they are mistaken, because we are not going to allow our dignity to be sullied," Commander Bouterse said. The aid suspension came after the Suriname military shot dead 15 opponents arrested in connection with an alleged coup plot.

COUNTRY TO GET $50 MILLION LOAN FROM IDB

FL012041 Bridgetown CANA in English 2035 GMT 1 Apr 83

[Text] Paramaribo, Suriname, Sparil April 1, CANA -- Suriname is to receive a 50 million dollar (U.S.) loan from the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) to finance development projects, according to the official Suriname News Agency (SNA).

SNA said the three major projects will be a rice project in western Suriname and irrigation for the creation of new polderlands, a rice and animal husbandry project in the Commewijne District and a large palm oil project in the Marowijne District.

Minister of Finance and Planning Winston Caldeira, who has just returned from the 24th annual meeting of the bank in Panama, said the IDB had taken notice of the "economic blackmail" by the Dutch Government, which cut off aid to its former colony last year after military authorities shot dead 15 opponents of the government.

The formal request for the financing will be delivered by Suriname before the end of the week, the statement said, and in April, the IDB will send a mission to the country to assist in the preparation of requests for financing both current and new projects. Special cooperation will be given to Suriname for approval of projects at the earliest possible time, the statement said.

It was also agreed at the meeting that the IDB will establish a branch office in Paramaribo in the near future. Suriname, which became and IDB member in December 1980, has also requested two million dollars from the bank's preinvestment fund for the preparation of projects. SNA said the bank's president, Antonio Ortiz Mena, has been invited to visit Suriname.